December 29, 2009

Legal Policy Section
Antitrust Division
U.S. Department of Justice
450 5th Street, NW, Suite 11700
Washington, DC 20001

Comments Regarding Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy

Dear Justice Department,

The "Packer" uses its cattle from Canada and Mexico to control the U.S. Cattle market. The "Packer Stockyard Pact" is not being enforced. When R-Calf shut the border between Canada and the U.S. because of Mad Cow Disease (BSE), the "Packer" did not own his cattle from Canada and couldn't manipulate the market. Ranchers were able to make a living. The "Packer" also uses the hair color of the animal to dock the prices. This is just a another way to manipulate the market. Ranchers should not ever be discriminated against because of something so outrageous.

The border, by law, should have stayed closed for seven years, but the government caved because of pressure from the "Packer". The "Packer" is again using his foreign cattle to control the U.S. cattle market. Ranchers are being forced to sell out because of the greed of big corporate packers.

Ranchers are told that prices are low because of producing too many cattle, why are we importing cattle? This country produces the best beef in the world and we can produce enough, but not when the corporations run the ranchers out of business. Our government would rather take care of a handful of people (corporations, packers) instead of letting it be a fair market.

We need to take care of Americans first and foremost, not just with the cattle industry, but with all industries in America.

Sincerly,

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